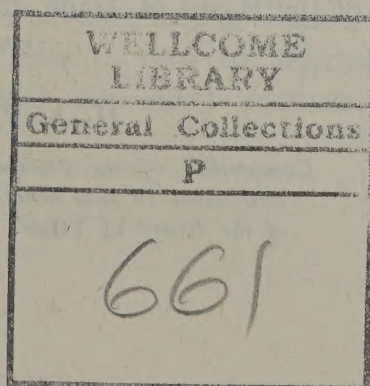


Memorandum
and
Articles of Association
and
Bye-laws
of the
Medical Women's
Federation



22502690175

**MEMORANDUM
OF
ASSOCIATION
of the
MEDICAL WOMEN'S
FEDERATION**



LICENCE BY THE BOARD OF TRADE.

*Pursuant to Section 20 of the Companies (Consolidation)
Act, 1908.*

WHEREAS it has been proved to the Board of Trade that "The Medical Women's Federation" which is about to be registered under the Companies Acts, 1908 and 1913, as an Association limited by guarantee, is formed for the purpose of promoting objects of the nature contemplated by the 20th Section of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, and that it is the intention of the said Association that the income and property of the Association whencesoever derived shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Association as set forth in the Memorandum of Association of the said Association and that no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend or bonus or otherwise, howsoever, by way of profit to the members of the said Association.

Now, therefore, the Board of Trade, in pursuance of the powers in them vested, and in consideration of the provisions and subject to the conditions contained in the Memorandum of Association of the said Association as subscribed by seven members thereof on the first day of February, 1917, do by this their licence direct "The Medical Women's Federation" to be registered with limited liability, without the addition of the word "Limited" to its name.

Signed by order of the Board of Trade, this seventh day of February, 1917.

H. A. PAYNE.

*Comptroller of the Companies Department,
authorised in that behalf by the President
of the Board of Trade.*

MEMORANDUM
OF
ASSOCIATION
of the
MEDICAL WOMEN'S
FEDERATION

1. The name of the Federation is "The Medical Women's Federation."

2. The registered office of the Federation will be situated in England.

3. The objects for which the Federation is established are :—

(a) To promote the medical and allied sciences, and to maintain the honour and interests of the medical profession ;

(b) To further the co-operation, and to promote the general interests of those women engaged or interested in the practice of medicine, or the allied sciences, including medical research ;

(c) To advance among women, in such manner as may from time to time be determined, the study of medicine and the allied sciences, including medical research ;

(d) To grant out of the funds of the Federation sums of money for the promotion of the medical and allied sciences, including medical research, in such manner as may from time to time be determined ;

(e) To ascertain and notify the law and practice relating to medicine, and to compile, collect, collate, revise, print and publish statistics, professional records and other information, books, pamphlets or periodicals relating to any of the objects of the Federation ;

(f) To hold or arrange for the holding of meetings of the members of the Federation or of the medical profession generally for the discussion of and the exchange of views on matters affecting or relating to medicine, the reading of papers and the delivery of lectures ; and to hold congresses or conferences (either jointly with any other body or institution or not) for the exposition of any matters affecting or relating to the practice or theory of medicine or any allied subject ; and to award medals, certificates, prizes or diplomas in connection therewith ; but so that all such certificates or diplomas shall contain on their face a statement to the effect that they are not issued under any statutory or government authority, but by the authority of the Federation only ;

(g) To teach any subjects relating to medicine or the allied sciences by professors or lecturers engaged and paid by the Federation, and to assist in providing such teaching by making grants to schools, colleges or institutions, or by paying or assisting to pay the fees and expenses of students of any such subjects or by providing and giving scholarships, prizes and other awards to such students, or by any or all of such methods ;

(h) To compile and maintain a list or lists of medical women in any part or parts of the world and of the posts and appointments held by or capable of being held by medical women, and to give to members and others information concerning any such post or appointment or opportunities of private practice ;

(i) To consider all questions affecting the practice of and to initiate and watch over and (if necessary) petition Parliament to promote deputations in relation to measures affecting, or likely to affect, the medical profession ; and to procure changes of and amendments in the law and the administration of the law relating to or affecting medicine or medical practice ;

(j) Subject to the provisions of Section 19 of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, to purchase, lease, rent, hold and dispose of any land or property, and particularly any building to be used as a place of meeting, for the members of the Federation, or as a college, school, lecture hall, laboratory, reading room or library for the advancement of the objects of the Federation, and to provide accommodation for any meeting, conference, or congress, whether promoted wholly or partly by the Federation or not, which in the opinion of the Council may conduce to, or assist in the carrying on of the objects of the Federation or tend to do so ;

(k) To establish, undertake, superintend, administer and contribute to any benevolent fund out of which may be made donations or advances to deserving members of the Federation or others who may be or may have been engaged in or connected with the medical profession ; and to support or subscribe to any charitable or other institutions, clubs, societies, or funds ;

(l) To form or acquire by purchase, donation, bequest or otherwise a library or laboratory and collection of models, drawings, instruments or other material, and to maintain, extend and improve the same ;

(m) To accept any gift, endowment or bequest made to or for the Federation, and to carry out any trusts attached to any such gift, endowment or bequest ;

(n) To borrow any moneys required for the purpose of the Federation upon such terms and on such security as may be determined ;

(o) To constitute various classes of members, and when thought fit to elect honorary members ;

(p) To amalgamate or combine or act temporarily or otherwise in conjunction with any other body or bodies, institution or institutions having the like or similar objects ;

(q) To do all or any of the above things in any part of the world, and to do all such other lawful things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects or any of them ;

Provided always that the Federation shall not support with its funds or endeavour to impose on or procure to be observed by its members or others any regulation, restriction or conditions which, if an object of the Federation, would make it a Trade Union.

Provided also that in case the Federation shall take or hold any property subject to the jurisdiction of the Charity Commissioners or Board of Education for England and Wales, the Federation shall not sell, mortgage, charge, or

lease the same without such authority, approval or consent as may be required by law ; and as regards any such property the Council of the Federation shall be chargeable for such property as may come into their hands, and shall be answerable and accountable for their own acts, receipts, neglects, and defaults, and for the due administration of such property in the same manner and to the same extent as they would as such Council have been if no incorporation had been effected, and the incorporation of the Federation shall not diminish or impair any control or authority exercisable by the Chancery Division, the Charity Commissioners or the Board of Education over such Council, but they shall as regards any such property be subject jointly and separately to such control or authority as if the Federation were not incorporated.

And further that in case the Federation shall take or hold any property which may be subject to any trust, the Federation shall only deal with the same in such manner as allowed by law, having regard to such trusts.

4. The income and property of the Federation, whence-soever derived, shall be applied solely towards the promotion of the objects of the Federation as set forth in this Memorandum of Association ; and no portion thereof shall be paid or transferred, directly or indirectly, by way of dividend, bonus, or otherwise howsoever, by way of profit to members of the Federation. Provided that nothing herein shall prevent the payment in good faith of reasonable and proper remuneration to any officers or servants of the Federation, or to any member of the Federation in return for any services actually rendered nor prevent the payment of interest at a rate not exceeding five per cent. per annum on money borrowed from any member of the Federation, or reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let by any member to the Federation ; nor prevent any member (not being a member of the council

of management or governing body) who may be a candidate or competitor at any congress or conference held or promoted by the Federation, or to the cost of holding or promoting which the Federation may have subscribed, from receiving as such competitor any prize, medal or other recognition which may under the regulations affecting such congress or conference be *bona fide* awarded to her, but so that no member for the time being of the council of management or governing body of the Federation shall be appointed to any salaried office of the Federation, or to any office of the Federation paid by fees, and that no remuneration or other benefit in money or money's worth, shall be given by the Federation to any such member except repayment of out-of-pocket expenses and interest at the rate aforesaid on money lent, or reasonable and proper rent for premises demised or let to the Federation; provided that the provision last aforesaid shall not apply to any payment to any railway, tramway, gas, electric lighting, water, cable, or telephone company at which a member of the council or governing body may be a member or any other company in which such member shall not hold more than one-hundredth part of the capital and such member shall not be bound to account for any share of profits she may receive in respect of any such payment.

5. No addition, alteration or amendment shall be made to or in the regulations contained in the Articles of Association for the time being in force unless the same shall have been previously submitted to and approved by the Board of Trade.

6. The fourth and fifth paragraphs of this memorandum contains conditions on which a licence is granted by the Board of Trade to the Association, in pursuance of Section 20 of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908.

7. The liability of the members is limited.

8. Every member of the Federation undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Federation, in the event of the same being wound up during the time that she is a member, or within one year afterwards, for payments of the debts and liabilities of the Federation contracted before the time at which she ceases to be a member, and the costs, charges, and expenses of winding up the same, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1.

9. If upon the winding up or dissolution of the Federation there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities, any property whatsoever, the same shall not be paid to or distributed among the members of the Federation, but if and so far as effect can be given to the next provision, shall be given or transferred to some other institution or institutions having objects similar to the objects of the Federation, and which shall prohibit the distribution of its or their income and property among its or their members to an extent at least as great as is imposed on the Federation under or by virtue of clause 4 hereof, such institution or institutions to be determined by the members of the Federation at or before the time of dissolution, or in default thereof by such Judge of the High Court of Justice as may have or acquire jurisdiction in the matter ; and if and so far as effect cannot be given to the foregoing provisions, then to some charitable object.

10. True accounts shall be kept of the sums of money received and expended by the Federation and the matter in respect of which such receipt and expenditure take place, and of the property, credits and liabilities of the Federation ; and, subject to any reasonable restrictions as to the time and manner of inspecting the same that may be imposed in accordance with the regulations of the Federation for the

time being, shall be open to the inspection of the members. Once at least in every year the accounts of the Federation shall be examined, and the correctness of the balance-sheet ascertained, by one or more properly qualified auditor or auditors.

WE, the several persons whose names are subscribed, are desirous of being formed into a Federation in pursuance of this Memorandum of Association.

NAMES, ADDRESSES, AND DESCRIPTIONS OF SUBSCRIBERS.

JANE HARRIETT WALKER,

122, Harley Street, London, W.

Doctor of Medicine.

CATHERINE CHISHOLM,

339, Oxford Road, Manchester.

Doctor of Medicine.

FLORENCE M. CONDON, L.R.C.P. and S.I.,

32, St. Chard's Road, Bradford.

CLARA STEWART, M.B., B. S. Lond.,

3, Cavendish Road, Leeds.

ALEXANDER MARY CAMPBELL WATSON, M.D. Edin.,

11, Walker Street, Edinburgh.

MARY FRANCES WILLIAMS, M.B., B.S. Lond., D.P.H. Camb.,

Colwall, Malvern.

ETHEL MARY NUCELLA WILLIAMS,

M.D. Lond., D.P.H. Camb.

3, Osborne Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Dated this 1st day of February, 1917.

Witness to the signature of the above named
JANE HARRIETT WALKER }
EDITH LASCELLES ANDERSON,
10, Conduit Street, London, W.,
Secretary.

Witness to the signature of the above named
CATHERINE CHISHOLM }
ANITA KEILIN,
Northern Hospital, Manchester.

Witness to the signature of the above named
FLORENCE MAUD MARY CONDON }
VERA D. BRUCE,
12, Claremont, Bradford.

Witness to the signature of the above named
CLARA STEWART }
MATTHEW J. STEWART,
3, Cavendish Road, Leeds.

Witness to the signature of the above named
MARY FRANCES WILLIAMS }
FRANCES GIFFORD,
The Goldings, Colwall.

Witness to the signature of the above named
A. M. C. WATSON }
ELIZABETH FAIRLIE WILKINSON,
11, Walker Street, Edinburgh.

Witness to the signature of the above named
ETHEL M. N. WILLIAMS }
M. A. BURNIP,
11, Clervaux Terrace, Jarrow-on-Tyne.
Secretary.

**ARTICLES
OF
ASSOCIATION
of the
MEDICAL WOMEN'S
FEDERATION**

ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION of the MEDICAL WOMEN'S FEDERATION

INTERPRETATION.

1. In these articles, unless there shall be something repugnant in the context—

“ The Federation ” means the above-named Federation ;

“ The Council ” means the members for the time being of the Council hereby constituted ;

“ The Bye-laws ” means the bye-laws and regulations scheduled to these articles or such other bye-laws and regulations as shall for the time being be in force ;

words importing persons include corporations ; words importing the feminine gender only shall include the masculine ; and words importing the singular number only shall include the plural, and *vice versa*.

MEMBERSHIP.

2. The members of the following existing local associations namely :

Registered Medical Women's Association ;
North-Eastern Medical Women's Association ;
Northern Medical Women's Association ;
Scottish Medical Women's Association ;
Midland Medical Women's Fellowship ;
Irish Medical Women's Association ;

and of such new associations to be formed as hereinafter prescribed, and such other persons as shall become members in accordance with these articles, and none others, shall be ordinary members of the Federation and shall be entered in the register of members accordingly.

3. Any persons, not being members of an existing association and not being less than fifteen in number, may at any time hereafter form themselves into an association having its objects or some of its objects similar to the objects of the Federation or some of them. Any such new associations may apply to the Council for permission for its members to become members of the Federation and with such application shall furnish to the Council a copy of its rules or proposed rules for approval. If the Council shall approve of such rules the members of such new association shall be entitled to become members of the Federation in all respects as though such new association had been an existing local association referred to in Article 2.

4. The qualification of other ordinary members of the Federation shall be as prescribed in the bye-laws.

5. The Council shall have power to elect any person or persons as honorary members of the Federation in accordance with the provisions contained in the bye-laws. Honorary members shall be entitled to the rights and privileges and subject to the limitations and disabilities conferred and imposed by the bye-laws; but, unless disentitled by express provision contained in the bye-laws for the time being in force from exercising any vote at general meetings of the Federation, honorary members shall be deemed to be members for the purpose of Clause 8 of the Memorandum of Association.

6. For the purpose of registration the number of members of the Federation is to be taken to be 2,000 but the

Council may from time to time register an increase of members.

7. The subscriptions of members shall be as prescribed by the bye-laws.

8. The Council may expel or refuse to continue the membership of any member of the Federation in the cases prescribed in the bye-laws and upon the conditions there set out.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS.

9. Every member of the Federation who is a member of a local association (whether an existing local association referred to in Article 2 or a new association referred to in Article 3), and whose address, as registered for the time being in the books of the Federation, is at a place situate within the area of any local association shall, *ipso facto*, be an Ordinary Member of that association and, except with the permission of the Council, shall not be a member of, or have any rights or privileges with regard to any other local association.

10. The bye-laws shall provide for contributions, grants and subscriptions out of the general funds of the Federation to local associations, and may impose on the members of any association such obligations towards the Federation and the other local associations respectively as may seem expedient.

11. Subject to these articles and the bye-laws, each local association shall be free to govern itself in such manner as it shall think fit, and for that purpose to make from time to time such rules as it may think fit, and to repeal or alter the same as and when it shall be considered expedient.

The rules so made, and for the time being in force, shall be binding on the members constituting the local association

in reference to which they are made. Provided that, except in the cases specified in the bye-laws, such rules shall be submitted for approval to the Council, and shall not come into operation unless and until they are approved by the Council.

MEETINGS.

12. The first General Meeting shall be held at such time, not being more than three months or less than one month after the incorporation of the Federation, and at such place as the Council shall determine. Subsequently the Annual General Meeting shall be held once in every year, at such time, not being more than fifteen months after the holding of the preceding General Meeting, and at such place as the Council shall determine.

13. All General Meetings, other than the Annual General Meeting, shall be called Extraordinary General Meetings.

The Council may whenever it thinks fit and it shall upon a requisition, made in writing as hereinafter provided, by any fifty or more members (other than Honorary Members) convene an Extraordinary General Meeting. Any such requisition shall state the object of the meeting proposed to be called, such object being to transact some business which by statute or by the articles or the bye-laws is required to be transacted by a General Meeting, and such requisition shall be left at the registered office of the Federation. Upon receipt of such a requisition the Council shall forthwith proceed to convene a General Meeting, and if within twenty-one days from the leaving of the requisition a General Meeting is not convened, any fifty members may themselves convene a meeting in accordance with the requisition. All Extraordinary General Meetings shall, unless otherwise determined by the Council, be held in London.

14. At least ten clear days' notice of every General Meeting, specifying generally the nature of any special business to be transacted, shall be given to the members in the manner prescribed by the bye-laws ; but the non-receipt of such notice by or the accidental omission to give such notice to any member shall not invalidate the proceedings at such meeting. Where it is proposed to pass a Special Resolution, the two requisite meetings may be convened by one and the same notice, and it shall be no objection to such notice that it only convenes the second meeting contingently on the resolution being passed by the requisite majority at the first meeting.

15. Special business shall include all business for transaction at an Extraordinary General Meeting, and all business for transaction at every other General Meeting with the exception of the reading and confirmation of the minutes of the previous meeting, and the reading and discussing of communications.

PROCEEDINGS AT GENERAL MEETINGS.

16. (a) At any Ordinary General Meeting, five members (other than Honorary Members) personally present shall constitute a quorum.

(b) At any Extraordinary General Meeting twenty persons (other than Honorary Members) present personally or by proxy shall constitute a quorum.

17. If within thirty minutes after the time fixed for holding the meeting, a quorum is not present, no meeting shall be held : and all matters which if a quorum had been present might have been done at a General Meeting (other than an Extraordinary General Meeting), may forthwith be done on behalf of the meeting by the Council.

18. The decision of a meeting shall be ascertained by show of hands, unless, after the show of hands, a poll is

forthwith demanded by at least five members personally present, and by a poll when a poll is thus demanded. The manner of taking a show of hands or a poll shall be in the discretion of the chairman, and an entry in the minutes, signed by the chairman, shall be sufficient evidence of the decision of the meeting. Each member of the Federation (other than Honorary Members) shall have one vote and no more. In case of equality of votes the Chairman shall have a second or casting vote.

BYE-LAWS.

19. The bye-laws shall regulate all matters by the articles left to be prescribed by the bye-laws, and all matters which, consistently with the articles, shall be made the subject of bye-laws. Alterations in, and additions to, the bye-laws, may be made only by resolution of the members of the Federation at an Annual General Meeting, on the recommendation of the Council, or after notice of motion stating thereon the general tenor of the proposed resolution has been sent to the Secretary at least two calendar months prior to the date of the Annual General Meeting. Such recommendation or notice of motion and resolution shall be printed in the agenda for the ensuing General Meeting.

Provided that no regulation which could only be legally imposed by article of association, or added or altered by a special resolution shall be made or altered by a bye-law.

REGISTER.

20. The Council shall cause to be kept a register or list of medical women in practice or acting as assistants in different areas in the British Isles and elsewhere, of posts and appointments filled or capable of being filled by medical women, and of vacancies and opportunities of private practice or partnerships, with such detailed information relating to any such matters as the Council may from time to time

determine. Such copies of or extracts from such register or list as the Council may determine shall from time to time be circulated among the local associations ; and the Council may from time to time determine what fee (if any) shall be charged for any such list or extract or other information furnished to any local association or to any member or other person.

THE COUNCIL.

21. The management of the affairs and business of the Federation shall be vested in the Council who, in addition to the powers and authorities by these articles or otherwise expressly conferred on them, may exercise all such powers and do all such acts and things as may be exercised or done by the Federation as are not hereby or by the bye-laws or by statute expressly directed or required to be exercised or done by the Federation in General Meeting, but no new article or bye-law shall invalidate any prior act of the Council which would have been valid if such new article or bye-law had not been made.

22. The Council shall consist of those officers of the Federation who are in the bye-laws declared to be *ex-officio* members of the Council, and of representatives of the local associations elected as hereinafter provided, and shall at all times consist only of members of the Federation.

23. At the close of the Annual General Meeting in 1919 and of every subsequent Annual General Meeting the whole of the members of the Council shall retire from office, but every such retiring member shall be eligible for re-election unless she shall have served as the representative on the Council of the same constituency for five successive years, in which case she shall for one year be incapable of being re-elected as such representative.

24. The Constituencies may fill up any casual vacancy

occurring in the elected members of the Council and the Council may fill up any casual vacancy in the other members of the council which shall occur between one Annual General Meeting and another, and any member of the Council so appointed shall retire at the succeeding Annual General Meeting but shall be eligible for re-election. Vacancies not filled up at any Annual General Meeting shall be deemed to be casual vacancies within the meaning of this article.

25. Each local association shall form a constituency, and shall be entitled to elect two representatives to act as members of the Council. Each constituency in the United Kingdom having not less than 100 members at the date of the election shall be entitled to elect one additional representative for every 100 or part of 100 members in excess of the first 100.

26. Every representative shall be elected not less than four weeks before the Annual General Meeting by a general meeting of the constituency or by voting papers sent to each member as the constituency may determine. The said meeting shall be convened or (if the election is by voting papers) the voting papers shall be despatched by the Secretary of the association forming the constituency, and the result of every election shall be reported by such Secretary to the Annual General Meeting at which the previous Council retire and such report shall give the name and address and mode of election of each representative.

POWERS AND PROCEDURE OF THE COUNCIL.

27. The Council may regulate their own procedure, and may determine their own quorum. If no other number is prescribed, five members of Council shall form a quorum.

28. The Council may delegate any of their powers to a committee or committees consisting of such member or

members of their body as they may think fit, and in addition the Council may (subject to any provision in the bye-laws) invite any person or persons whether members of the Federation or not to assist the Committee so appointed in the consideration or conduct of all matters referred to the committee. Any committee so formed shall, in the exercise of the powers so delegated to them, conform to any regulations that may from time to time be imposed upon it by the Council.

29. The meetings and proceedings of any such committee, consisting of two or more members, shall be governed by the provisions (if any) in these articles and in the bye-laws contained for regulating the meetings and proceedings of the Council so far as the same are applicable, and such provisions are not to be superseded by any regulations made by the Council under the last preceding clause.

30. No act done by the Council, or by any such committee as aforesaid, which shall receive the express or implied sanction of the members of the Federation in General Meeting, shall be afterwards impeached by any member of the Federation on any ground whatsoever, but shall be deemed to be an act of the Federation.

REFERENDUM.

31. If at any time or times the Council shall determine that in respect of any resolution of a General Meeting or of any other matter which, in the opinion of the Council, affects the members of the Federation a referendum is desirable, then an officer of the Federation to whom such duty shall be assigned by the Council shall, as soon as may be after the determination of the Council, send by post to the secretary of every local association a notice requiring her, within a time to be specified in such notice, to convene a meeting of the local association for the purpose of considering such resolution

or other matter, and shall with such notice transmit such observations on the subject as the Council may direct.

32. The secretary of the local association shall either convene an Association Meeting accordingly, or shall ascertain the opinion of the members of such association by means of a postal vote, and shall immediately after the opinion of the members has been ascertained by one of these methods certify in writing to the Council the result and the number of votes recorded for and against.

33. If the aggregate numbers of votes at all the Association Meetings so certified as having been recorded for shall exceed the aggregate number of votes so certified as recorded against the resolution or other matter referred to the local associations, or if no vote shall be given against the resolution or other matter, the same shall be deemed to have been approved on a referendum. The result of every referendum shall be published.

THE JOURNAL.

34. The Council shall cause to be published in London at such intervals (subject to any express provision in the bye-laws) as they shall determine a publication under such title as may from time to time be determined. Such publication shall be conducted by an editor who shall be subject to the control of the Council and shall be appointed by the Council at such remuneration (if any) as the Council shall determine; and the editor so appointed shall be responsible for all matter appearing in the journal, except such matter as is inserted in accordance with the articles or the bye-laws or by the direction of the Council.

OFFICERS.

35. The Secretary and other officers and servants of the Federation shall be appointed and removed in the manner

prescribed by the bye-laws. Subject to the express provisions of the bye-laws, the officers and servants of the Federation shall be appointed and removed by the Council.

36. The powers and duties of the Secretary and other officers of the Federation shall (subject to any express provision in the bye-laws) be determined by the Council.

SEAL.

37. The common Seal of the Federation shall not be affixed to any deed or writing except at a meeting of the Council and by their authority, and shall be in the custody of the President subject to regulations to be made by the Council and recorded on their minutes of proceedings to ensure its proper use and safe keeping.

For the purposes of this clause a resolution in writing signed by all the members of the Council shall for all purposes be as effective as a resolution passed at a meeting of the Council duly convened, held and constituted.

AUDIT.

38. The provisions of Sections 112 and 113 of the Companies (Consolidation) Act, 1908, relating to audit and auditors, shall apply to and be observed by the Federation, the first General Meeting being treated as the statutory meeting, the Council being treated as the directors, and the members being treated as the shareholders mentioned in those sections.

ACCOUNTS.

39. The accounts and books of account of the Federation shall be kept at the registered office ; and, subject to any reasonable restrictions as to the time and manner of inspecting the same that may be imposed by the members of the Federation in General Meeting, the said accounts and books of account shall be open to the inspection of the members at all times during the usual business hours.

NOTICES.

40. A notice may be served upon any member of the Federation either personally or by sending it through the post in a prepaid letter addressed to such member at her address as registered in the books of the Federation.

41. Any notice, if served by post, shall be deemed to have been served at the time when the letter containing the same would be delivered in the ordinary course of the post, and in proving such service it shall be sufficient to prove that the letter containing the notice was properly addressed, and put into the post office.

42. No member of the Federation not having a registered address within the United Kingdom, shall be entitled to any notice ; and all proceedings may be had and taken without notice to such member in the same manner as if she had had due notice.

NAMES, ADDRESSES, AND DESCRIPTIONS OF SUBSCRIBERS.

JANE HARRIETT WALKER,

122, Harley Street, London, W.

Doctor of Medicine.

CATHERINE CHISHOLM, B.A., M.D.,

339, Oxford Road, Manchester.

FLORENCE M. CONDON, L.R.C.P. and S.I.,

32, St. Chard's Road, Bradford.

CLARA STEWART, M.B., B.S. Lond.,

3, Cavendish Road, Leeds.

ALEXANDER MARY CAMPBELL WATSON, M.D. Edin.,

11, Walker Street, Edinburgh.

MARY FRANCES WILLIAMS, M.B., B.S. Lond., D.P.H. Camb.,

Colwall, Malvern.

ETHEL MARY NUCELLA WILLIAMS,
M.D. Lond., D.P.H. Camb.,
3, Osborne Terrace, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Dated this 1st day of February, 1917.

Witness to the signature of the above named
JANE HARRIETT WALKER }
EDITH LASCELLES ANDERSON,
10, Conduit Street, London, W.
Secretary.

Witness to the signature of the above named
CATHERINE CHISHOLM }
ANITA KEILIN,
Northern Hospital, Manchester.

Witness to the signature of the above named
FLORENCE MAUD MARY CONDON }
VERA D. BRUCE,
12, Claremont, Bradford.

Witness of the signature of the above named
CLARA STEWART }
MATTHEW J. STEWART,
3, Cavendish Road, Leeds.

Witness to the signature of the above named
MARY FRANCES WILLIAMS }
FRANCES GIFFORD,
The Goldings, Colwall.

Witness to the signature of the above named
A. M. C. WATSON }
ELIZABETH FAIRLIE WILKINSON,
11, Walker Street, Edinburgh.

Witness to the signature of the above named
ETHEL M. N. WILLIAMS }
MABEL A. BURNIP,
11, Clervaux Terrace, Jarrow-on-Tyne.
Secretary.

BYE-LAWS
of the
MEDICAL WOMEN'S
FEDERATION

BYE-LAWS of the MEDICAL WOMEN'S FEDERATION

INTERPRETATION.

1. In these bye-laws, unless there is something inconsistent in the subject or the context—

“ The Federation ” means the above-named Federation ;

“ The Council ” means the members for the time being of the Council of Management of the Federation ;

“ The Articles ” means the articles of association for the time being of the Federation ;

“ Local association ” means one of the existing local associations referred to in Article 2 or one of the new associations to be hereafter formed in pursuance of Article 3.

Expressions occurring in these bye-laws, and also in the articles, shall bear the same respective meanings.

2. These bye-laws shall be construed so as not to conflict with the articles.

MEMBERSHIP.

3. Any woman registered under the Medical Acts in the British Empire, and any woman medical practitioner who possesses such medical qualifications as shall from time to time be prescribed by the Council, shall be eligible for ordinary membership of the Federation.

4. Any member of a local association who, for a period of less than one year, shall be temporarily resident within the area of any other local association, shall be entitled to become a temporary member of such association upon sending to the Secretary of the association details of her name, membership of her own association and permanent and temporary addresses. Every such temporary member shall

be entitled to all the privileges of membership of the association of which she has become such temporary member except that she shall not be entitled to any vote in its affairs ; and the rules of every local association shall provide accordingly.

5. Any local association may elect as a complimentary member any ordinary member of any other local association or any qualified medical practitioner or person distinguished in science but not eligible for ordinary membership of the Federation ; and may by the local rules of such association confer on such complimentary members such privileges (other than that of voting) and impose such conditions of election as they may think desirable, subject to the approval of the Council ; and the rules of every local association shall provide accordingly.

6. The Federation shall have power to elect as honorary members such persons as shall from time to time be recommended by the Council. Honorary members shall not be liable to pay any subscription and shall not be entitled to any vote in the affairs of the Federation, but they shall be entitled to such privileges as may from time to time be conferred upon them by resolution of the Federation in General Meeting. Every honorary member shall cease to be such member upon a resolution of the Federation to that effect passed by a majority of at least two-thirds of those present and voting at a General Meeting.

6A. Local Associations shall be empowered to submit to the Executive Committee, for approval by the Council, nominations for Special Membership. The nominees to be members who have taken an interest in the affairs of the Federation and who have retired from full-time work owing to age or incapacity. Special membership to carry all the privileges of ordinary membership, but without the obligation of paying the annual subscription. (A.G.M., 1945).

7. In the month of April in every year there shall be prepared and published a list (hereinafter referred to as the Annual List) of the members of the Federation showing the names and registered addresses of the ordinary members of each local association as shown by the official register (to be kept by the Federation at the head office) of members of the Federation on 1st January of that year, and those named in the Annual List as ordinary members of any local association and no others shall be deemed for all purposes to be the ordinary members of such local association at the date of the publication of the Annual List.

8. It shall be the duty of the Secretary of every local association forthwith to report to the Secretary of the Federation all changes in membership or in the addresses of members.

9. The Council may cancel the membership of any person who shall have wilfully acted in contravention of the articles or the bye-laws, or who shall in the opinion of the Council have been guilty of such conduct as shall have rendered her unfit to continue a member. The Secretary shall thereupon send notice to the Secretary of the local association of which such person was a member and the Secretary of the local association shall thereupon remove the name of such person from the list of members of such association.

10. If any member shall leave her subscription or entrance fee or any instalment thereof in arrear for two years and shall fail to pay the arrears within three months after a written application has been sent to her by the Secretary of the Federation, the Secretary shall report to the Council who may cause her name to be struck off the list of members of the Federation ; and thereupon the defaulter shall cease to have any rights as a member of the Federation or as a member of the local association of which she was a member ; but she

shall nevertheless continue liable to pay the arrears of subscription due at the date of such application. Provided that this bye-law shall not be construed to compel the Council to remove any name if in their opinion it ought to be retained.

11. The Council may refuse to receive the subscription of any person who shall have wilfully acted in contravention of the articles or these bye-laws or of the rules or regulations of the local association of which she is a member, or who shall in the opinion of the Council have been guilty of such conduct as shall have rendered her unfit to continue to belong to the Federation, and the committee of any local association may report to the Council that in their opinion the name of any specified person should be removed from the list of members of the Federation; and thereupon the Council may proceed to deal with such member in the manner prescribed in bye-law 9.

Provided that before the Council strike off the name of a member under this bye-law or bye-law 9 the Secretary shall send notice to the offending member and give her an opportunity of explanation or of appealing to the Council; and for this purpose the Council shall have power in the first place to declare such person's rights as a member suspended for a period not exceeding twelve calendar months. If before the period of suspension shall have expired the person whose rights have been suspended shall have failed to make an explanation which in the opinion of the Council is satisfactory or shall not have appealed and satisfied the Council that her membership ought not to be cancelled, the Council shall confirm such suspension and the offending member's name shall be struck off the list of members.

SUBSCRIPTIONS.

12. The annual subscription payable in advance on the first day of January to the Honorary Treasurer of the Federa-

tion shall be one-and-a-half guineas for members qualified for four years or more, and one guinea for members qualified for less than four years, and for members retired from practice. The Annual Subscriptions for members resident abroad shall be half a guinea. (Amended A.G.M., 1939).

Newly qualified members shall pay a subscription of half a guinea to cover any fraction of the year of qualification and the complete year following, and the subscription for the three years thereafter shall be one guinea per annum. Members who do not join during the year of qualification shall pay one guinea a year for the first four years after qualification. No capitation fee shall be payable to local associations in respect of half guinea subscriptions, but all members shall be entitled to full rights and privileges. (A.G.M. 1929.)

Any member of the Federation by paying a sum of £21 shall become a life member of the Federation and shall not afterwards be liable to pay any further subscription.

Honorary Members shall not be required to subscribe to the ordinary funds of the Federation, but the Council may invite from them donations for special purposes.

13. It shall be competent for any local association offering special privileges to members to require a special subscription from members desiring to avail themselves of such privileges ; and it shall also be competent for any local association to charge to complimentary members such subscriptions as may be thought proper.

LOCAL ASSOCIATIONS.

14. In the rules of every local association there shall be incorporated in addition to rules to give effect to bye-laws 4 and 5 such rules as the Council may from time to time prescribe.

15. There shall be made out of the general funds of the Federation to every local association in the British Isles a

grant, by way of capitation fee, to cover the ordinary expenses of the local association. Such grant shall be of such amount as the Council shall from time to time determine having regard to the circumstances of each particular case.

16. The Council shall have power, with the consent of not less than two-thirds of the members of the local associations affected, to amalgamate, subdivide or modify the local areas of such associations. Provided always that before coming to any such decision, the Council shall cause to be sent to the Secretary of every local association affected notice in writing specifying the alteration or modification proposed to be made and fixing a reasonable time within which the views of the association may be submitted to the Council. The Secretary of such association shall forthwith summon a meeting of the committee of the local association for the purpose of considering the proposals; and if within the time limited by the notice no representation is made to the Council concerning such proposed alteration or modification, the Council shall arrive at a decision which, being published as provided in the Articles, shall be binding on all concerned.

17. A local association not in the British Isles may from time to time adopt by the vote of a general meeting of the association and without the approval of the Council rules dealing with all or any of the following matters which rules shall be binding upon all the members of such association :—

(i) The number, duties and designation of officers of the local association; provided that the association shall at all times have a Secretary who shall be the official medium of communication with the Federation and with other local associations;

(ii) The holding of meetings and the business to be dealt with at such meetings;

(iii) The eligibility of medical women not registered in the United Kingdom for election by the local association as members, subject however to any bye-laws or resolution of the Council for the time being in force relating to qualification for membership of the Federation ;

(iv) The privileges of ordinary membership of the local association other than the right to attend meetings convened for the purpose of considering business of the Federation ;

(v) Any other matter as to which the Council may from time to time authorise local associations not in the British Isles to make rules without the approval of the Council.

18. In cases where it is desired to ascertain the opinion of the members of the Federation upon any question apart from a General Meeting or Extraordinary General Meeting, such opinion shall be obtained through the Secretary of the local association.

THE COUNCIL.

19. A meeting of the Council shall be held at least once in every six calendar months, and the Secretary shall convene a meeting at any other time on a requisition in writing signed by at least six of the elected members of the Council stating the nature of the business proposed to be transacted.

20. Any member of the Council who shall cease to be a member of the Federation shall, *ipso facto*, cease to be a member of the Council.

21. The Council may from time to time appoint any one or more of their members to be a committee for such purpose or purposes as the Council may direct ; and the Council may invite and appoint any person or persons, whether members of the Federation or not, to assist the

committee so appointed in the consideration or conduct of all matters referred to the committee and may remunerate the persons or persons so appointed to assist the committee upon such terms as the Council may think reasonable ; provided that such person is not a member of the Council.

22. The Council may from time to time invest any moneys not immediately required for the purposes of the Federation in the purchase of any real or leasehold property, the acquisition of which in the opinion of the Council shall be expedient or desirable in the interests of the Federation, or in or upon securities upon which trustees are by law authorised to invest trust moneys, and with the authority of a resolution passed by the members of the Federation in General Meeting sell any property so acquired and with or without such authority may vary any such securities.

23. The Council shall have power to grant from time to time, on such terms and either with or without payment as they may think fit, the use of the rooms or offices of the Federation to any persons desirous of using the same for purposes similar to the objects of the Federation or for such other purposes as the Council shall approve.

24. Proxy representatives with power to vote shall be elected at the same time as the representatives on the Council from each association. The number of proxy representatives shall be fifty per cent. of the number of Council representatives of each Association, with a minimum of two. Only the persons elected shall be empowered to act as proxies. (A.G.M. 1939.)

25. The British National Corresponding Secretary of the Medical Women's International Association shall be an attending member of the Council of the Medical Women's Federation. but without power to vote. (A.G.M. 1933.)

26. The Council shall elect a member of the Medical Women's Federation to serve as President. Any member who has served on the Council of the Federation shall be eligible for nomination to the office of President of the Medical Women's Federation. Nominations for the office of President, duly proposed and seconded by any two members of the Council about to take office after the Annual General Meeting, shall be sent in writing to the Secretary of the Federation. The election shall be held prior to the Annual General Meeting and shall be decided by the votes registered in a postal ballot by members of the Council about to take office. The President shall be, *ex-officio*, a member of the Council during her term of office. No President shall hold office for more than two years consecutively. Every Past President, if still a member of the Federation, shall be, *ex-officio*, a member of the Council during the term of office of her successor, and shall rank as an officer during that period. (A.G.M. 1933.)

27. The Council shall at the same meeting elect not more than five Vice-Presidents for the ensuing year. The five Vice-Presidents shall be members of the Council and shall not hold office for more than two years consecutively. (Amended A.G.M. 1945.)

28. An Honorary Treasurer shall be elected by the Council and shall hold office for a term of three years. She shall be eligible for re-election for a second term of three years only. It shall be her duty to receive all moneys due and payable to the Federation and to disburse all sums due from the Federation. Particular account shall be kept of all such receipts and payments and a report rendered to the Council when required. The Honorary Treasurer shall be a member of the Federation and shall be *ex-officio* a member of the Council. (A.G.M. 1926.)

29. An Honorary Secretary shall be elected by the Council and shall hold office for a term of three years. She

shall be eligible for re-election for a second term of three years only. The Honorary Secretary shall be a member of the Federation, and shall be *ex-officio* a member of the Council.

30. An Executive Committee to transact the urgent business of the Federation during intervals between the meetings of the Council shall consist of the President and five Vice-Presidents, elected by the Council; the Past-President Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer, *ex-officio*; and the woman councillor elected by the women members of the British Medical Association, if she is already a member of the Medical Women's Federation. At least five members of the Executive Committee shall be chosen from the provincial members of the Council. (Amended A.G.M. 1945.)

31. The Honorary Editor of the official journal of the Medical Women's Federation shall be an attending member of the Council and of the Executive Committee of the Medical Women's Federation, but without power to vote. (A.G.M. 1940.)

32. An Overseas Association shall have a Committee in London, to be called the Overseas Association Committee, appointed by the Council. The Committee shall appoint two of their number, one of whom shall be normally resident overseas, to act as representatives on the Council for a period not exceeding five consecutive years. (A.G.M. 1939.)

33. When a member of the British Medical Women's Federation is acting as President of the Medical Women's International Association, she shall be, *ex-officio*, a member of the Council during her tenure of office and at the following meeting thereafter of the Council of the Federation. (A.G.M. 1939.)

34. The woman councillor elected by the women members of the British Medical Association, if she is already a

member of the Medical Women's Federation, shall be a member of Council of the Medical Women's Federation and a member of the Federation Executive Committee. (A.G.M. 1945.)

35. Representatives of the Medical Women's Federation on Outside Bodies shall be elected for a period not exceeding three years, and may then be eligible for a further period not exceeding three years. Only in very exceptional circumstances shall the total period of service exceed six consecutive years. (Amended A.G.M. 1945.)

36. The Council shall be empowered to invite the attendance at their meetings, but without power to vote, of any medical woman whose expert knowledge and advice on any particular aspect of the Federation's activities might be useful. (A.G.M. 1939.)

37. The Secretary of the Federation shall be appointed and shall be removable by the Council. The remuneration (if any) of the Secretary shall be fixed from time to time by the Council.

38. It shall be the duty of the Secretary under the direction of the Council to conduct the correspondence of the Federation; to attend all General and Special Meetings of the Federation and of the Council, and of Committees; to take minutes of the proceedings of such meetings; to read the minutes of the preceding meetings and all communications that may be ordered to be read; to superintend the publication of such papers as the Council may direct; to direct the collection of the subscriptions, and the preparation of the accounts of all receipts and expenditure of the funds; and to present all accounts to the Council for inspection and approval; and generally to do all such other matters as usually pertain to the office of Secretary, or as may be prescribed by the Council.

PUBLICATIONS.

39. Every paper read before any meeting of the Federation shall be the property of the Federation, unless there shall have been some previous arrangement to the contrary, and the Council may reproduce or publish the same in any way and at any time they think proper. But should the Council refuse or delay publication of any such paper beyond a reasonable time, the author shall have a right to copy the same and to publish it as she may think fit, having previously given notice to the Secretary of her intention. No person shall report for publication the proceedings of any meeting of the Federation or publish or give her consent to the publication of any communication to the Federation without the previous consent of the Council.

Original date,
February 1st, 1917.

First revision,
December 1st, 1922.

Second revision,
July 1st, 1929.
Fourth revision,
January 1st, 1946.

Third revision,
January 1st, 1936.

Agnes L. Rivers
Barpenden

